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DEC 14 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of M. South et al.

Art Unit 1624

Serial No. 09/574,740

Filed May 18, 2000

Confirmation No. 9926

For SUBSTITUTED POLYCYCLIC ARYL AND HETEROARYL PYRIDONES USEFUL  
FOR SELECTIVE INHIBITION OF THE COAGULATION CASCADE

Examiner Tamthom N. Truong

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

November 5, 2001

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

This letter is in response to the Office action dated October 3, 2001, in which an election of a Group of claims and an election of species for prosecution on the merits was requested.

According to 35 U.S.C. §121, a restriction is proper only if there are at least two independent and distinct inventions. Furthermore, "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made **without serious burden**, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions." MPEP § 803 (emphasis added). No showing has been made by the Office that the search and examination of this entire application will require serious burden.

Applicants, subject to the foregoing traverse, hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group III, claims 1-8, 17-24, and 33-58, directed towards the compounds of the formula in claim 1 wherein B is selected from the group consisting of hydrido, trialkylsilyl, C2-C8 alkyl, C3-C8 alkylenyl, C3-C8 alkenyl, C3-C8 alkynyl, C2-C8 haloalkyl, and C3-C8 haloalkenyl wherein each member of group B is optionally substituted at any carbon up to and including 6 atoms from the point of attachment of B to A with one or more of the group consisting of R<sup>32</sup>, R<sup>33</sup>, R<sup>34</sup>, R<sup>35</sup> and R<sup>36</sup>

their compositions and methods of use for further prosecution in the present application. In addition, Applicants elect the species alkyl for Group B. Claims 33-41 read upon the elected species, but were erroneously omitted from the claims of Group III by the Office. Because claims 33-41 read upon the elected species, they should be included in the claims of Group III. Applicants, accordingly, elect for examination claims 1-8, 17-24, and 33-58, which read upon the elected species.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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